

gone some miles up the Maitai Valley, camping near where they were at Christmas time. Mrs Harris, the Misses Harris (2), Duff, Trolove (2), McKee, and several others have gone in the direction of the Montere for their camp. Mr and Mrs H. Cock and family were for a few days at Wanganua.

(DELAYED.)

Dear Bee, March 28.
During the past week things socially have been very quiet, and in consequence there are no entertainments to record. The Garrison Band was to have given another popular moonlight concert on Friday evening, but owing to the inclemency of the weather it had to be postponed to a future date, much to the disappointment of many who had arranged to be present. We are still enjoying summer weather; in fact, it is unusually warm for this time of year, and shopkeepers must be in despair, for, though they display their winter goods to the very best advantage, we still much prefer our cottons and muslins.

STYLISH STREET GOWNS.

Mrs Percy Adams, smart costume of grey cashmere, hat en suite; Mrs E. F. W. Cooke, white pique coat and skirt, sailor hat; Mrs Sweet, becoming muslin gown finished with Nil green ribbons, chip hat trimmed with red and pink roses; Miss Wood, black velvet bodice trimmed with ecru lace, black skirt, hat to match; Mrs Richmond, black silk lustre, lace mantle, black bonnet with red roses; Miss Richmond, blue flowered muslin, hat with white ribbon and flowers; Mrs Kissling, heliotrope flowered muslin, large hat with black tips; Mrs Stephens, a lovely costume of grey, the skirt handsomely embroidered with white silk, vest of white chiffon, white chip hat trimmed with black velvet and white tips; Miss Gibson, white pique skirt, blouse of white muslin over pink, black hat; Miss Harris, pink flowered muslin, pink straw hat; Miss Mabel Harris, white muslin, blue and white chip hat; the Misses Webb-Bowen (2), black (mourning) costumes, white sailor hats; Miss Blackett, white pique, becoming hat to match trimmed with white feathers; Miss Pitt, white muslin over Nil green, hat trimmed with a profusion of shaded flowers; Miss E. Sealy, light blue cotton, black cash and tie, sailor hat; Miss Leggett, white pique, sailor hat with red band; Miss Day (England), white linen, pink straw hat; Miss Browning (Stoke), black costume, sailor hat; Mrs De Castro (Stoke), grass lawn costume, black hat with pink flowers; Mrs Sommerville (Sydney), navy coat and skirt; Miss Huddleston, grey coat and skirt; Mrs H. Dodson, fawn cloth costume; Miss Gannaway, white pique, black hat with coloured flowers; Miss A. Bell, light pink blouse over cream muslin, black skirt, black sailor hat; Mrs Smith (Melbourne), handsome black silk with jet, bonnet to match with heliotrope flowers; Mrs Robinson, black costume with vest of yellow silk, bonnet to match, with yellow flowers; Miss Poole, black and white striped cambric; Miss Houliker, white pique, Leghorn hat with pink roses.

PHYLLIS.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Dear Bee, March 7.
On Easter Monday afternoon on the New Plymouth green a BOWLING MATCH was played between Hawera and New Plymouth, ending in a win for the latter. Afternoon tea was provided by Mesdames Dougherty, Hall, Jenkinson, and Miss Paul. Among the lookers on were:—Mrs Goldwater, black silk; Miss Hart, cream, hat en suite; Mrs Paul, fawn and pink chiffon blouse, dark skirt; Miss Cunningham; Mrs Hall, heliotrope; Miss K. Hall, white; Mrs Dougherty, black and white costume, bonnet to match; Miss G. Paul, white, black picture hat; Miss Scot, white muslin over pale green, hat to correspond; Miss A. Cunningham, heliotrope muslin; Miss Street, black costume; Miss Hempton, heliotrope; Mrs G. Newman, black silk, hat en suite; Mrs W. Newman, pink; Mrs Bacon, pale blue; Miss Maule, cream; and others.

LADIES' DANCE

came off last Monday evening in the Theatre Royal, and was the most

successful that there has been as yet. The dressing of the ladies, speaking collectively, was elaborate, most of them wearing new costumes, made especially for the occasion. The coiffure was arranged in many different styles, some wearing it low on the neck, others going to the extreme, and wearing it very high. The debutantes of the evening were:—Miss O. Stanford, Miss W. George, Miss E. Cornwall, Miss N. Skeet, and Miss E. Baker. The committee composed of Mrs Fookes, Mrs Messenger, Mrs Penn (non sec), and Misses Hirst, Teed, Kirkby, and Arrow. The supper table was tastefully arranged with large stands of grasses and flowers, and the music was rendered by Garry's orchestra. Mrs Penn was wearing a very handsome yellow satin, prettily trimmed with chiffon, and carried a dainty shower bouquet; Mrs Burgess, white satin, banded with black; Miss Perry (Inglewood), pink with chiffon trimmings; and her sister, Miss J. Perry, looked very pretty in pale blue; Mrs Booth, pale pink and black; Miss Hirst, black satin and white; Miss Kirkby, pretty pale green with cream chiffon frills; Miss B. Kirkby, pale yellow; Miss O. Stanford (debutante), very handsome white satin, trimmed with white chiffon on decolletage; Miss Knight, pale pink silk, with flounce of lace at the bottom of skirt; Miss E. Brown, white with pale blue; Miss Sowerby (Havera), white; Miss Tukey, white with violets; Miss O. Tukey, yellow silk; Miss E. Hamerton, white; Miss C. Hamerton, blue; Miss S. Cunningham, maize coloured silk; Mrs Clarke, black velvet, with white chiffon trimmings; Miss E. Cornwall (debutante), a charming dress of white figured silk, the decolletage veiled in spangled gauze; Mrs H. Bramley, grey silk; Miss E. Jacob, white; Miss Teed, white, with yellow chiffon and flowers; Miss C. Bayly, nil green satin; Miss Spence, looking charming in black velvet, with decolletage of black spangled gauze and white chiffon; Mrs D. Teed, yellow and black; Miss McKellar white; Miss J. McKellar, pale pink; Misses Fookes wore dainty pink and heliotrope silk with chiffon trimmings respectively; Miss F. Cornwall, white silk; Miss Read, pink; Mrs Messenger, cream; Miss Sadler, black; Miss M. Sadler, white; Mrs W. Bayly, brocade silk with heliotrope trimmings; Mrs George, black with gold trimmings; Miss W. George (debutante), a very pretty white satin trimmed with chiffon and spangled gauze, and carried a prettily arranged bouquet of daisies; Miss G. Stanford, rose pink and cream; Mrs H. Fookes, white; Miss J. Cottier, white satin; Mrs Boulton, pale pink and dark green; Miss Patten, black veiled in yellow; Miss E. Baker (debutante), a dainty mousseline de soie trimmed with lace; Miss H. Humphries, yellow and pale blue; Miss K. Fraser, white silk; Mrs Courtney, black; Miss G. Baker-Gabb, white relieved with scarlet flowers; Miss Glynnes, heliotrope and white; Miss N. Skeet (debutante), very becoming dress of white satin, prettily trimmed with chiffon; Miss Dalziel, yellow satin; Miss H. Bayley, white silk with scarlet flowers; Misses Hitchens, lovely black spangled gauze dresses; Miss Arrow, white silk with red flowers on corsage and in hair; Miss Taylor, pale blue; Mrs Harrison, yellow silk veiled in black lace; and many others whose names I did not know. Among the gentlemen were:—Messrs Couttes, Weston, McTaggart (2), Valentine, Humphries (2), Didsbury, Parker, Woodhouse, Thomson (2), Webster (2), Cornwall, Skeet, S. Smith, Standish (2), Coe, Stanford, W. Bayly, Robertson, Esse, Hempton, Penn, Teed, E. Clarke, Courtney, McKellar, G. Wittchell, Holdsworth, Forte, Beckett (2), Russell, Gilmour, Messenger, Burgess, Tukey, Kirkby, Boulton, Fookes, George.

(DELAYED.)

Dear Bee, March 31.
AN AFTERNOON TEA on Monday afternoon at her residence, 'Overdale,' in honour of Mrs Seddon, who was her guest. It was an ideal place to entertain—lovely garden, flowers in profusion, either out or coming on, and right from the gate to the house the drive is lined with chrysanthemums and cosmos. If it had been fine, tea was to have been

served in the garden, but as it was the reverse, it was handed round in the drawing-room, which was charmingly decorated with ferns, palms, flowers, etc., and one felt quite content to listen to the merry chatter and laughter that was going on around you, produced mostly by Mrs Clarke and Mrs Westmacott lending their hands. Between the showers it cleared up a little, so some took advantage of it and went out into the garden and viewed the flowers or orchard, which is laid out in terraces. Mrs Cook received her guests in a handsome black figured lustre, trimmed with tiny frills of black and white lace on skirt and bodice; Miss Cook, white pique blouse, dark skirt; Mrs Seddon, very handsome black moire skirt, black and white silk blouse, with cream satin trimmings; Mrs E. M. Smith, heliotrope silk blouse, veiled in black lace; black silk skirt; Mrs Doyle, blue-grey costume; Mrs Gilmour, very pretty cream tucked silk blouse, trimmed with cream lace, dark skirt, cream hat, with brown and green trimmings; Mrs Sykes, black and green costume; Mrs Robinson, black satin, trimmed with white chiffon, black and white chiffon bonnet; Miss Robinson, canary-colour crepon blouse, with sash, dark skirt, hat en suite; Mrs Goldwater, black satin, with chiffon cape, very handsome black chiffon bonnet, with cardinal feathers; Miss Hart, heliotrope costume, with cream trimmings; Mrs Clarke, green, braided with white, and sequin trimmings, hat trimmed with a lighter shade; Mrs J. C. George, grey coat and skirt; Mrs Kelly, black satin; Mrs Bedford, black figured costume, with pink shot silk front, bonnet en suite; Miss Bedford, green, hat to match; Mrs A. Fookes, grey lustre, cream and grey chiffon bonnet; Mrs Dougherty, grey check costume, pink in bonnet; Mrs H. Bailey, fawn coat and skirt, cream silk front, sailor hat; Mrs Westmacott, black; Mrs Cottier, brown costume, cream in bonnet; Mrs Hood, peacock blue costume, hat to correspond; Mrs Snowball, grey; Mrs Dockrill, brown shot costume, pink silk and cream lace trimmings; Mrs Wilson, chocolate brown costume, pretty pink hat, trimmed with black; Mrs Hall, pale fawn, toque of green and yellow; Mrs Corney, blue shot lustre, cream and blue toque; Mrs Bacon, black, hat with gold; Miss E. Cortier, fawn costume, with cream satin trimmings; Mrs Stanford, black and gold; Miss Stanford, navy blue costume, black hat; Mrs Blyth, green, green shot silk trimmings; Mrs Ellis, black figured costume and net trimmings, bonnet en suite; Miss A. Cunningham, black and white check, braided with black braid, black hat, with scarlet flowers.

The Hon. R. J. Seddon addressed a public meeting in the Theatre Royal on Monday evening, and the building was packed to the doors. Mr Dockrill (Mayor) occupied the chair. Among the audience were Mr and Mrs Robinson, Mr and Mrs Asher, Mr and Mrs Walner, Mr and Misses Newitt, Misses Berry, Mr T. K. Skinner, Mrs Dockrill, Mrs E. M. Smith, Mr and Mrs Holdsworth, Mr and Mrs Sole, Mrs and Miss Moffin, Mrs and Miss Elder, Mrs Doyle, Mr and Mrs Corney, Mr and Mrs Richards, Mr and Mrs Ward, Mr and Mrs Allen, Mrs R. Hooker, Mr and Mrs O'Donnell, Mr and Mrs Golding, Mr and Mrs Clement Govett, Mr and Mrs Bacon, Mr and Mrs Courtney, Mr and Mrs W. Newman, Mr and Mrs George Newman, Mr and Mrs White, Mr H. Fookes, Mr Moverly, Miss Nash, Mr and Mrs G. Falkner, Mr and Mrs Butterworth, Mr Didsbury, Mr and Mrs Chivers, Mr and Mrs Fookes, Mr and Mrs R. Cook, Mrs Seddon, Mrs Kelly. Those on the stage were Hon. T. Kelly, M.L.C., Messrs S. Weston, E. M. Smith, L. Sarten, D. Barry, C. Abier, J. B. Roy, A. B. Capel, J. Bellringer, R. Cook, J. B. Connett, Revs. J. Drew and Garland, and others.

NANCY LEE.

HASTINGS.

Dear Bee, April 6.
The Waipukurau Town Hall was the scene on last Monday of a large gathering, on the occasion of the holding of the usual Easter bull. The hall is well suited for dancing, was beautifully decorated with ferns and flags, and the stage commanded an excellent view of the bull room. The floor was perfect, and the band played

delightfully, conducted by Mr Clarke, of Napier. There were several visitors from Napier, and it was a most spirited dance. The following were on the committee:—Messdames C. H. St. Hill, C. L. Mackersey, Gaisford, and P. Hunter, Miss A. Ormond, and Messrs A'Denne, J. Ormond, L. W. Mackersey, G. Hunter, and Hugh White. Mrs Sydney Johnston wore a rich black silk, with a pink silk bodice covered with black chiffon; Mrs C. H. St. Hill had a white brocade with a soft chiffon sash; Mrs P. Hunter was in a black gown trimmed with red; Mrs Gaisford had a black brocade; Miss Anderson's was one of the prettiest dresses in the room; a pink satin with silver passementerie; the Misses Todd wore pink gowns; with pink flowers and white lace; and Mrs Mackersey, black; Mrs McHardy had a pretty gown of French blue with steel embroidery; Miss Moorecroft was in a pretty shade of deep pink silk, a spray of crimson roses in the bodice, and white chiffon lot in the front; her sister, with a white dress, had trimmings of pearl embroidery and violets; Miss Brenda Wilson wore pale blue silk trimmed with steel embroidery; Miss Lyndon (debutante), a white gown trimmed with white daisies; the Misses St. Hill had white Bengaline dresses; Miss Mary Jackson's electric blue silk was trimmed with silver; Miss Simcox wore a gown of pink silk with trimming of white lace on the bodice; Miss Mairmore was much admired in white satin trimmed with pale blue chiffon, streamers of pale blue falling at the back; Miss Burke was also in white; Miss Giblin looked well in brown and white striped silk, with white jessamine on the bodice and a long chiffon sash; Miss Groome, cream silk and chiffon; Miss Tanner wore pink brocade; Mrs Smith was in black. Among the men were:—Messrs T. Stuart, Norris, Smith, Tanner, Reed, Groome, White, Odling, Sainsbury, Drs. Godfray, and Reed, etc.

NAPIER.

(DELAYED.)

Dear Bee, March 30.
At the Hawke's Bay Tennis Courts ten was given last Saturday by the Misses Hitchings, and there was a large attendance. Miss Kate Hitchings wore a pretty white muslin dress trimmed with lace, a grey cloak lined with pink silk, and a large white hat with chiffon and pink flowers; Miss Una Hitchings was in white pique and a sailor hat; Mrs Bowen wore black and white with a sailor hat; Miss Antill was in black; Miss McVay looked well in dark blue and white, feather bon, and a large black lace hat; the Misses Spencer wore light blouses and skirts; Miss Kirk was in black and white.

There were a large number of spectators to watch the cricket match at the Recreation Ground, when afternoon tea was given by Mrs Moeller, assisted by Mrs Crawford and the Misses Moeller and Ryan. The match, which was only begun on Saturday, was between the United A and County teams, and is to decide the championship for 1898-99.

The weather is warmer than usual for this time of year, and people are still wearing their summer dresses. Mrs Wood wears a grey dress and a black toque; Miss Wood, pretty white dress, and a large black hat with pale blue feathers; Mrs R. B. Smith, dainty white muslin over primrose colour, and large hat; Miss Tanner, fawn and pale blue, trimmed with brown velvet; Miss Florence Watt, a yellow costume, and a cream hat with pink roses; Mrs Merton, a stylish black dress trimmed with black guipure over green satin; Mrs Griffin looks well in white and a large black lace hat; Mrs Moore, a pretty white silk and a white chip hat with heliotrope; Miss Balfour, yellow with hat to match; Miss Muriel Balfour, fawn coat and skirt; Miss Kennedy, a pretty mauve blouse and dark skirt; Miss Macfarlane, white; Mrs Dr. Lisle also wears white; Mrs Kettle, fawn coat and skirt.

MARJORIE.

PICTON.

Dear Bee, April 5.
Just because, I suppose, there is no Championship Regatta here, the weather is perfect, real old-fashioned